UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,686	10/31/2003	Patricia Brown	100203623-3	2884

7590	11/04/2004

IP ADMINISTRATION
LEGAL DEPARTMENT M/S 35
HWELETT-PACKARD COMPANY
P.O. BOX 272400
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER
LEVIN, NAUM B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2825	

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/698,686	BROWN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Naum B Levin	2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _19 July 2004_.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-15,29 and 31-55_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-15,29 and 31-55_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _28 June 2004_ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

PTOL-326 (Rev. 1-04)   Office Action Summary   Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20041020

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to application 10/698,686 and amendment filed

on 07/19/2004. Claims 1-15, 29 and 31-55 remain pending in the application.

Applicants have amended claims 31, 33, 36 and 43 by inserting additional

limitations in independent claims, and created new dependent claims 50-53 and new

independent claims 54-55. Based on the Amendment Examiner has performed

additional search, and found a new reference.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 2 is objected to: .

the recitation of "determining a second memory of a second device" is not clear

to what applicants intend to mean.

Terminal Disclaimer

The terminal disclaimer filed on 07/19/2004 disclaiming the terminal portion of .

any patent granted on this application, which would extend beyond the expiration date

of patent No. 6.694,490 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer

has been recorded.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent
granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the
applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-15, 29 and 31-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Alvarez et al. (US Pub. No.: 2002/0184579).

3. As to claims 1, 29, 31, 33, 36, 42, 43, 54 and 55 Alvarez discloses system and method for recognizing and configuring devices embedded on memory modules including:

(1), (29), (54) A method/device/assembly for producing a device having a reduced memory capacity comprising:

providing a device (memory modules) having a memory capacity ([0003]; [0005]);

determining that the memory capacity of the device can be reduced (compressed) ([0015]- [0018]);

determining an amount by which the memory capacity of the device is to be reduced (compressed) ([0170]); and

reducing the memory capacity of the device in accordance with the determined amount to produce a device having a reduced memory (active memory) capacity and a dormant memory (inactive memory) capacity ([0170]).

(31), (43) An assembly comprising an apparatus/apparatus; and a device disposed in said apparatus and having a reduced memory capacity and a dormant memory capacity, wherein a memory capacity of the device is reduced in accordance with a determined amount in order to achieve the reduced memory (active memory) capacity ([0003]; [0005]; [0015]- [0018]; [0170]);

(33) A computer assembly comprising a computer; and a dual inline memory

module (DIMM) disposed in said computer and having a reduced memory capacity and

a dormant memory capacity wherein a memory capacity of the DIMM is reduced in

accordance with a determined amount in order to achieve the reduced memory (active

memory) capacity ([0003]; [0005]; [0015]- [0018]; [0170]);

(36), (42) A method/device for producing a device having a reduced memory

capacity, the method comprising:

providing a device having a memory capacity ([0003]; [0005]);

determining an amount of reduction for the memory capacity of the device

([0170]); and

reducing the memory capacity of the device by an amount of reduction in order to

produce a device having a reduced memory capacity and a dormant memory capacity

([0170]);

(55) An assembly comprising an apparatus; and a device disposed in said

apparatus and having a reduced memory capacity (active memory) and dormant

memory (inactive memory) capacity comprising, wherein said device having been

produced in accordance with the following steps ([0170]):

providing a device (memory modules) having a memory capacity ([0003]; [0005]);

determining that the memory capacity of the device can be reduced

(compressed) ([0015]- [0018]);

determining an amount by which the memory capacity of the device is to be

reduced (compressed) ([0170]); and

reducing the memory capacity of the device in accordance with the determined

amount to produce a device having a reduced memory (active memory) capacity and a

dormant memory (inactive memory) capacity ([0170]).

4. As to claims 2-15, 32, 34-35, 37-41 and 44-53 Alvarez recites:

(2), (6)-(11), (40), (48), (50), (51) The method/apparatus additionally comprising

determining a second memory capacity of a second device in an apparatus requiring

the second device having the second memory capacity ([0003]; [0005]; [0170]);

(3) The method of Claim 2 wherein said apparatus comprises a computer

([0009]);

(4), (5) The method of Claim 2 wherein said second memory capacity of said

second device is less than the memory capacity of the device ([0015]- [0018]);

(12)-(15) The method of Claim 1 wherein said device comprises a module

([0005]);

(32) The assembly of Claim 31 wherein said device having been produced in

accordance with the following steps: providing the device having a memory capacity;

determining that the memory capacity of the device can be reduced; determining

an amount by which the memory capacity of the device is to be reduced; and reducing

the memory capacity of the device in accordance with the determined amount to

produce the device having the reduced memory capacity and the dormant memory

capacity ([0003]; [0005]; [0015]- [0018]; [0170]);

(34) The computer assembly of Claim 33 wherein said DIMM having been

produced in accordance with the following steps: providing the DIMM having a memory

capacity; determining that the memory capacity of the DIMM can be reduced;

determining an amount by which the memory capacity of the DIMM is to be reduced;

and reducing the memory capacity of the DIMM in accordance with the determined

amount to produce the DIMM having the reduced memory capacity and the dormant

memory capacity ([0003]; [0005]; [0015]- [0018]; [0170]);

(35), (41), (49) The method/apparatus additionally comprising testing the

produced device for a reduced memory-capacity accuracy and for a dormant memory-

capacity accuracy ([0111]-[0115]);

(37), (44) The method/apparatus, wherein the device comprises a DIMM ([0003];

[0005]);

(38), (39), (46), (47) The method of claim 36, wherein reducing the memory

capacity of the device comprises: making air least one row/column of a memory bank in

the device as dormant ([0131]; [0170]);

(45) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the device is produced in accordance

with a method comprising: providing the device having a memory capacity; and

reducing the memory capacity of the device by an amount of reduction in order to

produce a device having a reduced memory capacity and a dormant memory capacity

([0015]- [0018]; [0170]);

(52), (53) The method/apparatus further comprising: prior to determining the

amount of reduction, determining if the memory of the device can be reduced ([0015]-

[0018]; [0170]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naum B Levin whose telephone number is 571-272-1898. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew S Smith can be reached on 571-272-1907. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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**VUTHE SIEK
PRIMARY EXAMINER**